

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed August 2, 2004. Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 1- 4, 6- 17 and 19 - 22 remain pending. In particular, Applicants have added claims 21 and 22, have amended claims 1, 6 - 9, 14 - 17, and 19 - 20, and have canceled claims 5 and 18 without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicants have canceled claims 5 and 18 merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these canceled claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate the canceled subject matter to the public. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action indicates that claims 1 - 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Sturgeon*. With respect to claims 5 and 18, Applicants have canceled these claims as set forth above, and respectfully assert that the rejection as to these claims has been rendered moot. With respect to the remaining claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Turning first to *Sturgeon*, that reference discloses:

For double-sided jobs, ***character recognition or similar techniques may also be used to determine inconsistencies in the orientation of certain pages of the batch job.*** For example, several orientations may be presented, such as due to insertion of a portion (commonly a verso side stack) into the scanning device and an orientation different from a first portion of the batch job. ***Regions containing page designations may then be designated as "normal" orientations for the particular portion of the batch job,*** with a software rotation being performed on one portion of the batch job (typically recto or verso) based upon the location of the page designation. ***Because commercially available character recognition routines may fail to accurately perform where page orientation is other than expected, in accordance with***

the present technique, the routine may be performed on regions of the scanned document in several possible orientations, rotated with respect to one another to provide for recognition of the page designation in any of several possible page orientations.

(Emphasis Added).

As set forth above, *Sturgeon* discloses particular techniques for determining inconsistencies in the orientation of pages that are to be scanned. Specifically, these techniques involve location the page number of a scanned document. Applicants' claims, however, recite various other features/limitations that are patently distinct from these teachings.

With respect to the claims, claim 1 has been amended to recite:

1. A document processing system for providing information corresponding to a scanned document, said document processing system comprising:

a scan review system configured for receiving scan information corresponding to a scanned document, said scan review system being configured to enable selection of a registration characteristic of a page of a document to be scanned and review the document to be scanned relative to the selected registration characteristic such that, in response to identifying a page of the document as not possessing the selected registration characteristic, said scan review system designates the page for review, ***wherein the registration characteristic is at least one of: top line, top margin, bottom line, bottom margin, left margin and right margin.***

(Emphasis Added).

Applicants respectfully assert that the cited art does not teach or otherwise disclose at least the features/limitations emphasized above in claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Since claims 2 - 5 and 6 - 13 are dependent claims that incorporate all the features/limitations of claim 1, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims also are in condition for allowance. Additionally, these claims recite other features/limitations that can serve as an independent basis for patentability.

With respect to claim 14, that claim recites:

14. A method for providing information corresponding to a scanned document comprising:
enabling selection of a registration characteristic of a page of the document, *wherein the registration characteristic is at least one of: top line, top margin, bottom line, bottom margin, left margin and right margin*;
reviewing pages of the document relative to the selected registration characteristic; and
enabling receipt of scan information corresponding to the pages of the document.
(Emphasis Added).

Applicants respectfully assert that the cited art does not teach or otherwise disclose at least the features/limitations emphasized above in claim 14. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 14 is in condition for allowance.

Since claims 15 – 17 and 19 - 20 are dependent claims that incorporate all the features/limitations of claim 14, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims also are in condition for allowance. Additionally, these claims recite other features/limitations that can serve as an independent basis for patentability.

Newly Added Claims

Upon entry of the amendments in this response, Applicants have added new claims 21 and 22 and respectfully assert that these claims are in condition for allowance. In particular, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims are in condition for allowance because they are dependent claims that incorporate the features/limitations of their respective independent claims, that allowability of which is described above. Additionally, these claims recite other features/limitations that can serve as an independent basis for patentability.

By way of example, claim 21 recites:

21. The document processing system of claim 3, wherein the graphical user interface is configured to enable an operator to position the registration characteristic selected such that the scan review system compares a position of a document for scanning relative to the position of the registration characteristic selected.

Applicants respectfully assert that the cited art does not teach or reasonably suggest at least the additional features/limitations recited above in claim 21. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 21 clearly is in condition for allowance. Additionally, claim 22 recites:

22. The method of claim 14, further comprising:
enabling an operator to position the registration characteristic selected such that a position of a document for scanning can be compared to the position of the registration characteristic selected.

Applicants respectfully assert that the cited art does not teach or reasonably suggest at least the additional features/limitations recited above in claim 22. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 22 clearly is in condition for allowance.

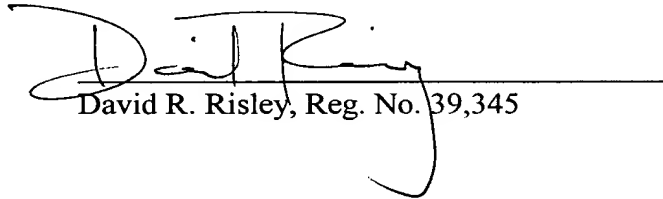
Cited Art Made of Record

The cited art made of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

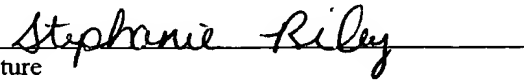
Respectfully submitted,



David R. Risley, Reg. No. 39,345

**THOMAS, KAYDEN,
HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, L.L.P.**
Suite 1750
100 Galleria Parkway N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30339
(770) 933-9500

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Signature